

Program Endorsement

Congress of the United States (Feb. 12, 1998)

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

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February 12, 1998

The Honorable John Douglas
Assistant Secretary of the Navy
Research, Development and Acquisition
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350

RADM Paul Gaffney II
Chief Naval Research
Ballston Center
800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217-5660

Dear Secretary Douglas and Admiral Gaffney:

The Best Manufacturing Practices (BMP) program has achieved enormous success and has been the focus of high praise by government program managers and industry executives alike. It is a program that not only provides value to the Navy but to the national government-industrial team. Additionally, the BMP program enjoys substantial bi-partisan congressional as well as current administration support.

The BMP program has performed three surveys in my district. One for the City of Chattanooga and two for the Department of Energy facilities in Oak Ridge. These surveys have been very beneficial to these organizations at extremely low cost.

The Office of Naval Research is the designated Navy executive agent for the BMP program. Recently, the FY98 BMP budget was reduced nearly a third with indications that there may be more cuts.

I would sincerely appreciate your looking into this and providing me with details on the impact this funding reduction would have on the Navy BMP program in total.

Warmest regards,

Zach Wamp
Zach Wamp
Member of Congress